

*Libby (I)*

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF  
CRICKLADE AND WOOTTON BASSETT



*The*  
**ANNUAL REPORT**

*of the*  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

*and*  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
for the Year 1956



TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS  
OF THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL  
OF CRICKLADE & WOOTTON BASSETT

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1956. The environmental field is completely covered in the accompanying report of the Chief Public Health Inspector and Housing Officer.

My predecessor, Dr. R. S. McElroy, resigned on 30th April 1956 and I took up my appointment on 11th September. The intervening period was covered by Dr. R. MacKay of Marlborough.

Since I took up duties with this Council, Mr. James, the Chief Public Health Inspector, has taken great pains to familiarise me with the main features of the district and has spared no effort in teaching me the work of his department. In this latter respect I am in his debt and regard this report as the appropriate place to state how much the success of investigations into the cause and effect of illness, both notifiable and otherwise, has been furthered by the painstaking way in which Mr. James and the other Public Health Inspectors have made reports, visits of enquiry and have initiated laboratory investigations.

I have endeavoured to present my part of the report in much the same form as in previous years, with a few appropriate minor alterations.

The outstanding statistical feature is the high infant mortality rate. I have itemized the infant deaths in order to afford an explanation.

The outstanding environmental feature, which was demonstrated to me by Mr. James, is the difficulty encountered by the Council in respect of future refuse tipping. This subject continues to exercise our minds during 1957.

Apart from the infant mortality rate, the over-all picture is quite satisfactory.

In addition to the Chief Public Health Inspector, I wish to record my thanks to the Chairman of the Council, the Chairman of the Public Health Committee and Members of the Council for their support at all times.

The others members of the staff of the Council have all been ready to assist me whenever asked and I wish to record my gratitude.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,

J. B. KERSHAW,  
Medical Officer of Health.

July, 1957.

# REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

## FOR THE YEAR 1956

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**CRICKLADE AND WOOTTON BASSETT  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL  
1956-7**

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL :

**HERBERT JOHN EVELEIGH**

VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL :

**ALFRED JOB WOOLFORD**

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL :

**W. J. HOSIER**

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE :

All the Members of the Council

CHAIRMAN

**G. G. LLOYD**

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE

All the Members of the Council

CHAIRMAN

**HERBERT JOHN EVELEIGH**

# PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF AS AT

**31st December, 1956**

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

J. B. KERSHAW, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., D.P.H. (also Medical Officer of Health Highworth Rural District Council, Assistant County and School Medical Officer, Wilts County Council).

## CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :

C. E. JAMES, C.S.I.B., Cert. Meat and Foods, M.A.P.H.I.

## ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :

T. L. COX, C.S.I.B., Cert. Meat and Foods, M.A.P.H.I.

## ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :

S. MORELAND, C.S.I.B., Cert. Meat and Foods, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

## RODENT OPERATOR :

W. H. BUCKLAND

## CLERICAL STAFF :

MISS M. SIMPKINS

MISS S. ENGLAND

(Services shared with Highworth Rural District Council  
and Wilts County Council)

## COUNCIL OFFICES :

Manor House,  
Wootton Bassett.  
Wilts.

## TELEPHONE—

Wootton Bassett 458

## OFFICE OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

Highworth R.D.C. Offices,  
17 Bath Road,  
Swindon, Wilts.

## TELEPHONE—Swindon 4847/8/9

(House—Wroughton 231)

## GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of District ...	...	...	...	...	45,911	acres
Number of Parishes ...	...	...	...	...	14	
Estimated Population (including Service personnel) ...					16,580	
Number of inhabited houses (permanent) ...					4,553	
Rateable value as at 1st April 1956 ...	...	...	...	...	£146,551	
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ...	...	...	...	...	£570	

**Population :** The estimated population shows an increase of 270 compared with 1955.

**Number of inhabited houses :** The figure of 4,553 shows an increase of 85 compared with the previous year.

### New houses erected in 1956 :

By Local Authority ...	...	...	...	...	66
By Private Enterprise ...	...	...	...	...	21

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

### Live Births :

<i>Births</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate ... ... ...	130	155	285
Illegitimate ... ... ...	6	5	11
Total number of live births	136	160	296

Live birth-rate per 1000 population (corrected) ...	...	18.5
Live birth-rate for England and Wales ...	...	15.7
Comparability factor for the District ...	...	1.04

### Still Births :

<i>Births</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate ... ... ...	3	5	8
Illegitimate ... ... ...	—	—	—
Total number of still births	3	5	8

### Deaths :

Deaths from all causes in the area. Male 85. Female 77. Total 162			
Death rate per 1000 population (corrected) ...	...	...	11.2
Death rate for England and Wales ...	...	...	11.7
Comparability factor ... ... ...	...	...	1.16

### Infant Mortality :

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :

<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate ... ... ...	3	7	10
Illegitimate ... ... ...	—	—	—
Total number of deaths ...	3	7	10

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age :

<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate ... ... ...	3	4	7
Illegitimate ... ... ...	—	—	—
Total number of deaths ...	3	4	7

### Infant Death Rates :

(Number of infant deaths under 1 year of age per 1000 live births) ... ... ... ... ...	33.7
Infant death rate for England and Wales ... ...	23.8

## INFANT DEATHS

Month	Age	Sex	Parish	Cause of Death	Place of Death
February	10 mins.	Male	Ashton Keynes	Prematurity (Rhesus Incompatibility)	Home
February	6 days	Male	Lyneham	Bronchopneumonia	Stratton Hospital
March	7½ mths.	Female	Wootton Bassett	Congenital	Stratton Hospital
March	5 mins.	Female	Lyneham	Heart Disease	Home
April	10 hrs.	Female	Purton	Atelectasis	Mat. Hospital
				Prematurity	
				(Toxaemia of mother)	
May	1 day	Female	Wootton Bassett	Birth Injury	Mat. Hospital
May	1 hr.	Female	Wootton Bassett	Prematurity	Mat. Hospital
July	9 mths.	Female	Purton	Meningocele	Home
November	3 days	Male	Purton	Birth Injury	Mat. Hospital
December	8 mths.	Female	Lydiard	Adrenal Haemorrhage	Stratton Hospital
			Millicent		

## CAUSES OF DEATH :

		Male	Female
Tuberculosis of Lungs	...	1	-
Tuberculosis (other) ...	...	-	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	1	1
Malignant disease of stomach	...	1	1
Malignant disease of lung ...	...	-	-
Malignant disease of breast	...	4	4
Malignant disease of uterus	...	2	2
Other malignant disease	...	7	7
Leukaemia	...	1	1
Lesions of blood vessels of nervous system	...	9	15

Coronary disease	...	...	...	...	...	15	10
High blood pressure with heart disease	...	...	...	...	3	6	
Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	13	7	
Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	5	3	
Influenza	...	...	...	...	2	2	
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	5	2	
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	5	3	
Other respiratory disease	...	...	...	...	1	—	
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	2	—	
Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	1	2	
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	7	9	
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	1	—	
All other accidents	...	...	...	...	1	—	
Suicide	...	...	...	...	2	1	
				Total, all causes	85	77	

### Deaths : Some Comparative Figures :

Year	1954	1955	1956
Deaths ...	149	125	162
Year	1954	1955	1956
Lung Cancer ...	4	3	4
Year	1954	1955	1956
Coronary Disease	15	16	25
Year	1954	1955	1956
Cancer (all forms)	27	18	27
Year	1954	1955	1956
Lesions of Blood Vessels of Nervous System ...	25	26	24

### Prevalence and Control of Infectious Disease :

#### NOTIFIED CASES

		1954	1955	1956
Scarlet Fever	...	17	8	11
Whooping Cough	...	50	34	29
Diphtheria	...	—	—	—
Measles	...	—	248	73
Pneumonia	...	5	4	10
Meningococcal Infection	...	—	1	1
Dysentery	...	2	1	5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	1	1	—
Paratyphoid Fever	...	—	—	—
Erysipelas	...	1	1	1
Malaria	...	—	2	—
Poliomyelitis	...	—	1	—
Food Poisoning	...	—	52	7
Undulant Fever	...	—	—	—

In addition to the cases notified by statute, acknowledgment is due to the family doctors who have kindly let the Public Health Department know of other cases which may be of importance from the point of view of public health.

**DISTRIBUTION IN PARISHES : NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES :**

	Ashton Keynes	Braleydon	Broad Town	Clyffe Pyppard	Cricklade	Lattoon	Leigh	Lydiard Millicent	Lydiard Tregezze	Lyneham	Marsdon Meysey	Purton	Tockenham	Wootton Bassett	Total	
Scarlet Fever	...														10	11
Whooping Cough	...														2	29
Diphtheria	...														—	—
Measles	...														1	1
Pneumonia	...														—	73
Meningococcal Infection	...														1	10
Dysentery	...														1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorium	...														5	5
Puerperal Pyrexia	...														—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	...														—	—
Erysipelas	...														1	1
Malaria	...														—	—
Poliomyelitis	...														2	2
Food Poisoning	...														—	—
Undulant Fever	...														7	7

**TUBERCULOSIS**

**New Cases**

Year		No. of Cases
1956	...	10
1955	...	16
1954	...	12
1953	...	32
1952	...	15

During 1956 8 new cases of tuberculosis of the lungs occurred amongst residents of the district. In addition there was one case of abdominal tuberculosis in an adult woman and one case of tuberculosis of the neck glands in a boy of 16.

During the same period 6 known persons with tuberculosis took up residence in the district.

At the end of 1956 there were 91 persons in the district who were under some form of medical supervision for tuberculosis. Of these, 72 were patients in whom the lungs were known to have been affected.

Of persons dying during the year, tuberculosis was the primary cause of death in one case.

### HOUSING OF TUBERCULOUS PATIENTS :

Tuberculosis is believed to be fostered by overcrowding and poverty. Cases for rehousing were classified as follows :—

**Certificate No. 1.** Sputum positive cases where re-housing is considered urgent for prevention of spread of infection.

**Certificate No. 2.** Where better housing would be desirable in order to improve and maintain the patient's health.

**Certificate No. 3.** Where better housing is beneficial but not urgent.

During 1956 two cases were referred and re-housed under Certificate No. 2.

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Age Group	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total under 15
Primary imms.—Dip. ... completed during 1956—Wh/c. ...	96	83		21		43	6	249
Reinf. inj.—Dip. administered during 1956—Wh/c.	86	80		10		3	—	179
Total immunised Pre 1-1-52 1956 child population				4		229	43	276
at 31/12/56 Post 1.1.52	35	158	166	247	102	1030	448	2186

### SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Age Group	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over
Vaccinations	104	8	5	1	11
Re-vaccinations	—	1	1	3	12

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the figures in the above tables. Immunisation against whooping cough and diphtheria is carried out by family doctors and also at the County Council Welfare Centres. Reinforcement injections are given periodically at schools. Vaccination against Smallpox is carried out by family doctors.

## **NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948**

Section 47, Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in need of Care and Attention.

In no case was it found necessary to take proceedings under this section. An increasing number of elderly persons is referred to the department from year to year. It is a matter of policy to make maximum use of existing services, public and voluntary, and, for as long as possible, enable elderly persons to live in their own home.

## **OTHER HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT**

### **Laboratory Facilities**

Swindon Area Pathological Laboratory of the Oxford Regional Hospital Board caters for the needs of the district.

### **Hospital Facilities**

These are the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board.

The main general hospitals are situated at Stratton St. Margaret and Swindon, which also provide accommodation for maternity cases in a separate institution.

Cases of infectious disease are admitted to the Area Isolation Hospital, Swindon. The nearest smallpox hospital is at Reading. Cases under the National Assistance Act 1948 are admitted to Elm Court, Stratton St. Margaret.

### **Other Facilities**

Arrangements for the following services operating in the district are made by the County Health Committee :

Care of expectant and nursing mothers and young children.

Domiciliary midwifery.

Home nursing.

Vaccination and Immunisation

Ambulances and ambulance cars.

Domestic helps.

Services under Part III of the National Health Service

Act for the prevention of illness; care and after-care ; health education.

Mental health service.

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
AND HOUSING OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1956**  
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**REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
AND HOUSING OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1956**  
**JUNE, 1957**

To : The Chairman and Members of the Cricklade and Wootton Bassett Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my twenty-seventh Annual Report on the work carried out in my Department.

**HOUSING**

**Number of New Houses and Flats erected during the year**

(a) By Local Authority ...	...	...	...	...	...	66
(b) By Private Enterprise	...	...	...	...	...	21

**Inspection of Dwellings during the year**

(i) Inspected for housing defects under Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	16
(ii) Inspected for housing defects under Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	40
(iii) Number of dwellings found to be unfit for habitation	...	...	...	...	...	25
(iv) Number of dwellings found not to be in all respects fit for habitation	...	...	...	...	...	15
(v) Total number of inspections and reinspections under Public Health and Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	166

**Remedy of defects by Informal Action**

Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of Informal Action	...	...	...	...	...	12
--------------------------------------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

**Action under Statutory Powers (Public Health and Housing Acts)**

(A) Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts						
(i) Number of dwellings in respect of which Formal Notices were served	...	...	...	...	...	1
(ii) Number of dwellings rendered fit after service of Formal Notices	...	...	...	...	...	
(a) By Owners	...	...	...	...	...	3
(b) By Local Authority in default on Owners	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 Housing Act, 1936						
(i) Number of Demolition Orders made	...	...	...	...	...	6
(ii) Number of houses demolished	...	...	...	...	...	5
(iii) Number of Undertakings accepted	...	...	...	...	...	10
(iv) Number of Undertakings completed	...	...	...	...	...	2

**Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953**

Number of Closing Orders made under Sec : 10(1)	...	6
-------------------------------------------------	-----	---

## **Housing Act 1936—Overcrowding**

Number of cases of overcrowding discovered in 1956 ...	Nil
Number of cases of overcrowding brought forward from 1955 ...	5
Number of cases of overcrowding abated during the year ...	2
Number of cases of overcrowding on December 31st 1956 ...	?
One overcrowding was abated by moving a family from a 3 bedroom council house to a 4 bedroom one. The second case was abated by the estate agent acceding to my suggestion to move the family from a 1 bedroom to a 2 bedroom house.	

## **Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954**

### **Part I**

Estimated number of houses unfit for human habitation within the meaning of Sec. 9 Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954 and suitable for action under Sec. 11 or 25 Housing Act 1936 on December 31st, 1956 ...	86
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### **Part II**

No action was taken under this part of the Act. No applications for Certificates of Disrepair were made

## **Housing Act 1949**

There were 21 applications, concerning 22 houses, for Improvement Grants. Of this number of applications 16 were approved, 1 rejected, 2 withdrawn (3 houses) and 2 were under consideration at the end of the year. Of these 21 applications 7 were made by owner-occupiers.

This is approximately half of the number received in 1955 and may be due to the fact that in April, owing to the restriction on capital expenditure, the Council decided to defer applications for improvement grants, other than those for houses which needed reconstruction or re-conditioning owing to their low category.

There were 23 improvement grants made in 1956 which affected 25 houses and cost £7,758 giving an average cost per dwelling of £337 and an average grant stated as a percentage of 49%. The average rent fixed by the Council was £49 per annum.

## **Housing Applications**

A comparative table giving the number of applicants for houses in the district on December 31st, 1956 and 1955 is set out below.

Parish	No. of Applicants on 31/12/56		Total No. of Applicants		Increase (+) Decrease (-)	No. of Applicants who were over crowded 31/12/56
	who are house- holders	who are in rooms	On Dec: 31/56	On Dec: 31/55		
Ashton Keynes	8	1	9	20	-11	-
Braydon	-1	-7	-	-	-	-
Broad Town	7	4	11	10	-2	-
Clyffe Pypard	26	8	34	6	+5	-
Cricklade	-	-	-	30	+4	-
Latton	2	5	2	3	-3	-
Leigh	16	5	21	20	-1	-
Lydiard Millicent	4	-	4	4	-	-
Lydiard Tregoze	18	8	26	19	+7	-
Lynneham	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marston Meysey	41	19	60	53	+7	-
Purton	2	-	2	2	-	-
Tockenham	115	43	158	179	-21	1
Wootton Bassett	-	-	-	-	-	-
	240	95	335	348	-13	1

Although 66 applicants for council houses were rehoused during the year there was a decrease of only 13 in the number on December 31st, 1956 compared with the number on December 31st, 1955.

At the end of 1955 half of the applicants were persons who were occupying rooms. On December 31st, 1956 only 28% of the applicants were living in rooms.

Of the 13 parishes in which there are council houses there was an increased number of applicants in 5 parishes, a decrease in 4 and no change in 4.

### SIZES OF FAMILIES OF APPLICANTS

No. Children	Man, Wife and					
	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	4 Children	5 Children	Over 5 Children
98	108	66	25	25	7	6
29.3	32.2	19.7	7.5	7.5	2.1	1.8

### APPLICATIONS FOR AGED PERSON'S DWELLINGS

PARISH	NUMBER OF APPLICANTS ON DECEMBER 31st, 1956			Total Number of applicants on December 31st, 1955
	Married Couples	Widows, Widowers and single persons	Total	
Ashton Keynes	1	1	2	—
Cricklade	5	3	8	9
Lydiard Millicent	1	—	1	—
Purton	7	5	12	9
Wootton Bassett	11	13	24	19
	25	22	47	37

### Provision of New Houses

Council houses were erected in Cricklade and Wootton Bassett parishes only.

The Cricklade houses were all "Woolaway" non-traditional and consisted of 8 three-bedroom, 8 two-bedroom and 4 aged person's dwellings.

At Wootton Bassett 46 council houses were built. These were 6 three-bedroom and 6 aged person's dwellings "Traditional," and 26 three-bedroom and 8 two-bedroom "Woolaways."

### Number of Houses

Details of the number of inhabited houses are set out in parish order.

It will be seen that approximately twice as many council houses have been erected post-war than pre-war, and that one fifth of the total number of houses in the district are owned by the Local Authority.

PARISH	Total No. of houses	NO. OF COUNCIL HOUSES INCLUDING AGED PERSONS' DWELLINGS			% of houses owned by Local Authority
		Erected pre-war	Erected post-war	Total	
Ashton Keynes	264	17	18	35	13.3
Braydon	17	—	—	—	—
Broad Town	153	16	20	36	23.5
Clyffe Pypard	117	14	2	16	13.7
Cricklade	552	28	139	167	30.2
Latton	134	4	8	12	9.0
Leigh	105	9	30	39	37.1
Lydiard Millicent	275	28	12	40	14.5
Lydiard Tregoze	160	10	8	18	11.2
Lyneham	*623	40	12	52	8.3
Marston Meysey	63	6	6	12	19.0
Purton	838	83	89	172	20.5
Tockenham	37	—	4	4	10.8
Wootton Bassett	1215	87	279	366	30.1
	4553	342	627	969	21.3

\*includes 334 Air Ministry houses.

#### Types of Council Houses in each Parish :—

PARISH	Traditional	Airey	Reema	Orlit	Unity	Swedish Timber	Woolaway
Ashton Keynes	21	14	—	—	—	—	—
Braydon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Broad Town	28	8	—	—	—	—	—
Clyffe Pypard	14	—	—	—	—	2	—
Cricklade	78	12	—	—	47	—	30
Latton	12	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leigh	9	14	—	—	16	—	—
Lydiard Millicent	40	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lydiard Tregoze	10	—	—	—	—	8	—
Lyneham	42	10	—	—	—	—	—
Marston Meysey	12	—	—	—	—	—	—
Purton	116	16	—	—	40	—	—
Tockenham	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wootton Bassett	202	50	14	44	22	—	34
	588	124	14	44	125	10	64

The above types of Council Houses give accommodation as follows :

	Traditional Houses			New Traditional Houses		Traditional Aged Persons Dwellings (Bungalows)		New Traditional Aged Persons Dwellings (Bungalows)	
	BEDROOMS			BEDROOMS		BEDROOMS		BEDROOMS	
	4	3	2	3	2	2	1	2	1
Pre-war	9	332	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post-war	6	203	6	331	42	27	5	8	—
Total	15	535	6	331	42	27	5	8	—

### Inspection of Council Houses

Eighteen council houses were inspected during the year and where necessary requests were made to cleanse the houses.

### Temporary Dwellings

The last three tenants of Blakehill huts were rehoused early in the year and excepting a small number of huts situate on one site which were taken over by a farmer for use as store sheds, all huts were demolished.

The huts owned by Swindon Corporation at Lydiard Park continue to be used for human habitation.

Number of temporary dwellings on December 31st 1956 :—

Lydiard Park ... ... ... ... 120

Number of visits to temporary dwellings ... 9

### PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936

#### Nuisances

No. of nuisances discovered ... ... ... 28

No. of nuisances abated ... ... ... 22

No. of inspections made for the purpose ... 68

#### Verminous Premises

Two houses and two huts were successfully treated with DDT / Lindane and Gammexane after infestation with fleas.

One council house was badly infested with earwigs and was treated with Pybuthrin insect powder.

At another council house the occupier found that an old mattress had been left in the roof space by the previous tenant and the roof space was infested to an extraordinary degree with moths. The infestation was quickly overcome by spraying with Gammexane.

Complaints from tenants of houses at Templars Firs, Wootton

Bassett, of infestation with flies were made at the end of May. The cause was alleged to be the Wootton Bassett refuse tip. The tip had been regularly treated with DDT powder. By the end of June the tip had been covered with soil and tipping of refuse ceased as all tipping space had been utilised.

Further complaints were made in September and October. Tipping had been carried out in marl holes on Scotlands Farm since July and no fly infestation occurred at these spots. Fifty-one houses were visited in connection with these complaints.

Number of visits re-verminous premises ...	...	82
--------------------------------------------	-----	----

### **Smoke Abatement**

No complaints re-smoke and grit emission were received during the year.

### **Moveable dwellings**

There was a considerable increase in the number of moveable dwellings licensed during the year.

Thirty licenses were issued during the year and 12 were first licenses.

One converted motor bus was in such condition and so overcrowded as to be a nuisance and notice to remove the bus and abate overcrowding was complied with.

Number of visits re-moveable dwellings ...	...	33
--------------------------------------------	-----	----

### **Drainage and Sewerage**

The more thickly populated parts of the parishes of Cricklade, Purton and Wootton Bassett are served by sewers discharging to sewage works.

The Cricklade sewers discharge to three sewage wells, the sewage being lifted from one well to the other until it reaches the settling tanks and is finally irrigated.

The Purton and Wootton Bassett sewers discharge to detritus chambers, settling tanks, percolating filters and humus tanks, the effluent reaching streams.

There are sewers and sewage works in the parish of Lyneham which were constructed by the Air Ministry. Excepting Lyneham School only the aerodrome and houses built by the Air Ministry drain to these sewers.

Small sewage installations serve houses erected post-war on Council housing sites at Ashton Keynes, Broad Town, Leigh, Lydiard Millicent, Lydiard Tregoze, Lyneham and Tockenham.

Number of houses served by W.C.'s and draining to cesspits ...	...	734
----------------------------------------------------------------	-----	-----

Number of houses served by pail closets and draining to cesspits ...	...	419
----------------------------------------------------------------------	-----	-----

Total number of houses draining to cesspits ...	...	1153
-------------------------------------------------	-----	------

Total number of houses draining to small sewage installations	...	...	...	...	...	104
Total number of houses connected to sewers	...	...	...	...	2314	
Percentage of houses connected to sewers	...	...	...	...	50.82	
Percentage of houses served by water closets and draining to cesspits	...	...	...	...	...	16.12
Percentage of houses draining to cesspits but having pail closets	...	...	...	...	...	9.20
Percentage of houses drained to cesspits	...	...	...	...	...	25.32
Percentage of houses drained to small sewage installations	...	...	...	...	...	2.28
Percentage of houses drained to sewers, small sewage installations and cesspits	...	...	...	...	...	78.43
(The above figures include Air Ministry houses but not temporary dwellings).						
Number of visits re-drainage	...	...	...	...	...	66

### **Public Conveniences**

There is only one public convenience in the district and this is situate at Wootton Bassett.

### **Refuse Collection and Disposal**

Two "Dennis" 10 cub. yd. refuse vehicles are used for refuse collection and salvage is collected in trailers attached to the lorries. A weekly collection is made in all parts of the district.

The number of men employed on this service is 2 drivers, 4 loaders and a tipman/spare hand loader.

I am pleased to report that there was no difficulty in getting labour during the year, a difficulty which has existed for a number of years.

The area of land used for tipping at Wootton Bassett was filled up in July and refuse was tipped in marl holes situate in fields adjoining the Scotlands Fields to Chaddington Lane. In September and for the rest of the year, owing to wet weather, it was impossible for the refuse lorries to traverse this lane and fields and refuse from Wootton Bassett, Broad Town, Clyffe Pypard and Lyneham parishes had to be taken to the Purton Tip. This considerably increased the time taken for refuse collection and the mileage.

On the cessation of tipping at Wootton Bassett, the tip was covered with soil, loaded and conveyed by a building firm at no cost to the Council. For the 26 years I have been your Public Health inspector, other than loads of soil which have been purchased, I am sure that soil tipped by builders and others has not averaged more than a dozen loads per year. It is therefore exceedingly fortunate that this soil was forthcoming, as it would have cost the Council approximately £400 to have covered the tip.

At the end of the year and in fact up to the time of writing

this report, a tipping site to replace the Wootton Bassett tip had not been obtained, owing to the impossibility of finding a suitable site other than agricultural land. Future tipping sites are presenting a very serious problem.

Gammexane dust is used as an insecticide on all the refuse tips.

Number of visits re - public cleansing ... ... ... 249

### Salvage

There was an increased amount of all kinds of salvageable waste materials in 1956. Unfortunately owing to the build-up of waste paper stocks lying at the mills, the Merchants would only take a certain tonnage from local authorities. It was therefore impossible to sell any waste paper after September. Prices dropped after the first quarter of the year.

Towards the end of the year there was insufficient under-cover storage for waste paper and some of the bales had to be stacked in the open and covered inefficiently with any material to hand.

An old age pensioner is employed in baling waste paper, five days per week.

Salvageable waste materials sold—

Waste Material	WEIGHT			RECEIPTS		
	t.	c.	q.	£	s.	d.
Waste paper ...	74	15	0	625	12	1
Scrap iron ...	5	9	1	26	13	3
Non-ferrous metals ...		7	0	16	2	11
Textiles ...	1	2	2	13	10	8
	81	13	3	681	18	11

Number of visits re - salvage ... ... ... ... 42

### Refuse and Salvage—Collection and Disposal Costs

(Financial Year ended 31st March 1957)

Cost of refuse and salvage collections and disposal	£6191	14	4
Receipts—Refuse and salvage ... ... ...	£954	5	0
Cost of refuse and salvage collection and disposal to General Rate Fund ... ... ...	£5337	9	4
Net cost of refuse and salvage collection and disposal per habitable house (including temporary and Air Ministry houses) ...	22	/10.13	
Net cost of refuse and salvage collection and disposal—			
— per head of population ... ... ...	6	/5.26	
— per 1000 population ... ... ...	£321	18	4
Mileage of refuse vehicles (Year ended Decem-			

ber 31st 1956) :—						
No. 1 vehicle	...	...	...	...	...	10131
No. 2 vehicle	...	...	...	...	...	9506
Running cost of refuse vehicles per mile (Year ended December 31st 1956) :—						
No. 1 vehicle	...	...	...	...	...	1/2.71
No. 2 vehicle	...	...	...	...	...	1/6.23
Miles per gallon (Year ended December 31st 1956) :—						
No. 1 vehicle	...	...	...	...	...	6.60
No. 2 vehicle	...	...	...	...	...	6.22

The cost of refuse collection and disposal increased by £1,537.

Wages increased by £1,144 and petrol and oil by £144, these increases being partly due to the extra time taken and miles travelled in conveying refuse to Cricklade and Purton tips from Wootton Bassett, Broad Town, Clyffe Pypard and Lyneham, from September to the end of the year. There were rises in wages and also a slight increase in the cost of petrol and oil. Cost of repairs to one lorry was heavier partly due to the welding of a new steel plate lining to the body. One trailer had to be replaced during the year.

The addition of new houses every year must also result in an increase in the cost of refuse collection.

### **Infectious Diseases**

Investigations were carried out after notification of 15 cases. In four of them a member of the family was engaged in milking. Only in one instance was milk being sold without heat treatment and in this case the employer arranged for the father of the patient to be put on work for a week which was not connected with milk production.

In two instances (dysentery) the patients were food handlers and did not return to work until three consecutive negative excretal specimens had been obtained.

One house was disinfected after a death from tuberculosis.

As a result of the head teacher's notification to the County Education Authority of a number of cases of diarrhoea in children attending Lydiard Park School, investigations involving 102 visits and the taking of 62 faeces specimens were made. All specimens proved negative.

### **FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1938-55**

#### **Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949 to 1954**

No. of Milk Distributors on the Register	...	...	17
No. of Distributors dairies on the Register	...	...	9
No. of inspections made under the Regulations	...	...	23

### Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949 to 1954

No. of "Tuberculin Tested" dealers licenses	...	...	14
No. of Supplementary "Tuberculin Tested" dealers licenses	...	...	7

### Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised & Sterilised Milk)

#### Regulations 1949 to 1953

No. of "Pasteurised" dealers licenses	...	...	11
No. of Supplementary "Pasteurised" dealers licenses	...	...	6

### Milk Sampling

No samples of pasteurised milk were taken this year. Samples are taken by the Wilts County Public Health Inspector at the pasteurisation plants.

There was a great improvement in the results of the Methylene blue tests of designated milk, but there was a great increase in the percentage of failures of non-designated milk.

#### Number of Milk Samples taken

	Designated	Non-designated	Pasteurised
For methylene blue tests only	76	15	—
For methylene blue plus biological tests	22	6	—
For biological tests only	—	—	—
For phosphates tests only	—	—	—
	98	21	—

#### Results of Milk Sampling

	DESIGNATED (T.T.)		NON- DESIGNATED	
	Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
Methylene blue test ...	90 (92%)	8 (8%)	17 (81%)	4 (19%)
Biological test ...	22 (100%)	—	6 (100%)	—

### Ice Cream

The total number of premises registered for the sale and storage of ice cream has reached 35, but none are registered until the provisions of the Food & Drugs Act are satisfied. Only one trader remains who sells his own product, the remainder selling the prepacked product from the large wholesale distributors. The district is visited almost daily by travelling vans from depots of the large prepacked brand manufacturers. The sole producer of ice

cream complied with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations 1947-1952.

All samples taken this year were placed in the top two grades, but five samples were positive for B.Coli, one with faecal type organisms and four with non faecal types.

Manufacturer	PROVISIONAL GRADING				
	1	2	3	4	5
A	4	1	—	—	—
Percentage	80%	20%	—	—	—
B	3	2	—	—	—
Percentage	60%	40%	—	—	—
C	5	—	—	—	—
Percentage	100%	—	—	—	—
D	4	1	—	—	—
Percentage	80%	20%	—	—	—
E	3	1	—	—	—
Percentage	75%	25%	—	—	—
TOTALS	19	5	—	—	—
Percentages	79 1/6%	20 5/6%	—	—	—

## Meat

There are 9 private slaughterhouses in the district and regular killing was carried out during the year at 8 of them. At 6 of the slaughterhouses the animals are killed for local consumption, but at 2 premises, where most of the killing takes place, practically all the meat is despatched to London for wholesale trade.

More animals were killed in 1956 than have ever been slaughtered in the area before. Much of this slaughtering is carried out in the evenings and on Sundays and to maintain 100% inspection, has meant that inspectors were engaged in meat examination on three to four evenings per week, every Sunday, and on some Bank holidays. There was an increase of 37% in 1956 compared with the number of animals killed in the year 1955.

The Markets in which calves are bought for killing in the district cover a great area and are situate in the counties of Wiltshire, Gloucester, Berkshire, Somerset, Carmarthen, Monmouthshire Cheshire, Shropshire and Flintshire.

There was a small increase in the percentage of cattle, calves and pigs which were found to be affected with tuberculosis. As to animals affected with diseases other than tuberculosis, there was a decrease in the percentage for cattle, calves and sheep and a slight increase for pigs.

## Animals killed and Carcasses examined

	CATTLE OTHER THAN Cows	Cows	CALVES	PIGS	SHEEP	GOATS	TOTAL
No. of animals killed	402	84	32286	405	1965	5	35147
No. of carcasses inspected	402	84	32286	405	1965	5	35147

I would bring to your notice that no meat was condemned in any shop during the year.

It is extraordinary for your inspectors to go through the year without being called into a shop for the examination and condemnation of meat.

No. of visits to and inspections made at slaughterhouses 1441

## Condemned Meat

	CATTLE OTHER THAN Cows	Cows	CALVES	PIGS	SHEEP & LAMBS	TOTAL
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCUS						
Whole carcasses ...	—	5	46	1	9	61
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ...	84	29	688	46	91	938
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticercus	20.9	40.5	2.2	11.6	5.1	2.8
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY						
Whole carcasses ...	—	1	18	1	—	20
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ...	23	11	27	17	—	78
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	5.7	14.3	0.1	4.4	—	0.3
CYSTICERCOSIS						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ... ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

	CATTLE OTHER THAN COWS	COWS	CALVES	PIGS	SHEEP & LAMBS	TOTAL
<b>CONDEMNED FOR ALL DISEASES</b>						
Whole carcases ...	—	6	64	2	9	81
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned ... ...	107	40	715	63	91	1016
Total number of animals affected with disease ...	107	46	779	65	100	1097
Percentage of the num- ber inspected which were affected with disease ...	26.6	54.8	2.4	16.0	5.1	3.1

### Weights of Condemned Meat

	CONDEMNED IN SLAUGHTERHOUSES				CONDEMNED IN SHOPS			
	T.	c.	q.	lbs.	T.	c.	q.	lbs.
Beef ... ...	1	5	1	22				
Veal ... ...	1	13	1	18				NIL
Pork and Bacon	—	3	2	—				
Mutton and Lamb	—	3	—	3				
Offal ... ...	1	11	—	17				
	4	16	2	4				NIL

	CONDEMNED FOR TUBERCULOSIS				CONDEMNED FOR DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS			
	T.	c.	q.	lbs.	T.	c.	q.	lbs.
Beef ... ...	4	3	15		1	—	2	7
Veal ... ...	12	1	20		1	—	3	26
Pork and Bacon	2	2	4					3 24
Mutton and Lamb	—	—	—		3	—	3	
Offal ... ...	4	3	19		1	6	—	26
	1	4	3	2	3	11	3	2
Percentage of the total of condemned meat ...				25.7				74.3

### Tuberculosis in Calves

There was a negligible increase of 0.03% in the number of calves found to be affected with tuberculosis.

When the necessary information was obtainable in connection

with condemnation of calves for tuberculosis, the veterinary inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food were notified so that endeavour could be made to trace and examine the dams.

Calves bearing no market ticket ...	...	...	...	6
Calves untraceable by the Veterinary Officer ...	...	...	...	2
Dams found to be positive when tested for tuberculosis	...	...	...	3
Dams found to be negative ...	...	...	...	2
Number of cases in respect of which information had not been returned by Veterinary Officers ...	...	...	...	5

### **Slaughter of Animals Act**

On December 31st 1956 there were 19 licensed slaughtermen in the district.

### **Other Foods**

All the unsound food in shops and a buffer depot was voluntary surrendered and is detailed as follows :—

				<i>Tins</i>
Corned beef ...	...	...	...	146 — 6lb.
Corned beef ...	...	...	...	10 — 12oz.
Corned mutton ...	...	...	...	15 — 12oz.
Ox tongue ...	...	...	...	1 — 6lb.
Calf tongues ...	...	...	...	2 — 6lb.
Evaporated milk ...	...	...	...	1 — $\frac{3}{4}$ pint

Of the 146 tins of corned beef, 115 were condemned at a buffer depot owing to the tins being aged, rusty and pierced. All the above tins were disposed of by burying.

Large consignments of condensed milk in possession of the Ministry of Food were delivered to a local milk factory for salvaging. A total of 851,842 tins of machine skimmed sweetened condensed milk were examined by the Company and of this number 90,281 tins were condemned by a Public Health Inspector. The condemned tins were opened and the contents were bulked and sold for animal feeding. The milk from the sound tins was bulked and returned to the trade for manufacturing purposes.

Resulting from the breakdown of the refrigeration plant at a school meals kitchen, 112 lbs. of boneless beef and 110 lbs. of minced beef were condemned. Some of this meat was destroyed by fire and the remainder was used for animal feeding purposes.

### **Food Premises**

There are 44 registered food premises in the district. These premises are for the—

Manufacture and/or sale of ice cream ...	...	...	35
Manufacture and sale of sausages, pickled, pressed or preserved meat ...	...	...	6
Purpose of fish frying ...	...	...	3
			44

Excepting two of these premises where fish frying was carried out, other food was sold at the above premises and the number of inspections made to all registered premises is included in the record of inspections made under the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955.

There were no complaints re the conditions at any registered food premises.

## Food Hygiene Regulations 1955-56

The various types of food premises are as follows :—

Bakers ...	...	...	...	...	6
Butchers ...	...	...	...	...	11
Cafes ...	...	...	...	...	5
Cafes cum Grocers ...	...	...	...	...	1
Cafes cum Confectioners ...	...	...	...	...	2
Canteens ...	...	...	...	...	3
Confectioners (including sale of ice cream) ...	...	...	...	...	12
Egg Grading Depot ...	...	...	...	...	1
Factories dealing with food products ...	...	...	...	...	2
Fishmongers cum Grocers ...	...	...	...	...	1
Fishmongers ...	...	...	...	...	2
Greengrocers ...	...	...	...	...	2
Grocers ...	...	...	...	...	51
Halls, Social Centres, etc. ...	...	...	...	...	11
Institutions, Homes, etc. ...	...	...	...	...	3
Licensed Premises (including Clubs) ...	...	...	...	...	50
Manufacture of chocolate (domestic) ...	...	...	...	...	1
Off licence premises ...	...	...	...	...	1
School Kitchens ...	...	...	...	...	4
Schools where meals are taken ...	...	...	...	...	13
Youth Hostel ...	...	...	...	...	1
					183

Early in the year a circular letter was sent to the occupiers of food premises notifying them of the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955 and informing them that an inspector would visit their

premises in due course. A pamphlet was enclosed which gave a summary of the Regulations and also a poster stating the requirements relative to food handlers.

A total of 119 food premises were inspected during the year and during these inspections advice was given to the occupiers on food hygiene and on the best means of complying with the Regulations.

A very detailed report on the premises follows :—

## **Schools**

### **(a) County Council Schools**

All premises connected with the school meals service were visited. With the exception of Purton which has its own kitchen, all meals are supplied from the central kitchen at Wootton Bassett. This kitchen provides an average of 650 meals a day and serves schools in an adjoining district. Thirteen schools in the district get their meals from this kitchen, 10 of which have the meals on the premises and are provided with sculleries, the remainder have to use nearby halls. The meals are delivered in containers (insulated where necessary).

At the majority of schools the food remains in the containers without any other means of heating, until it is served up by the school meals helpers. In a few cases the food is placed in the ovens provided and left there until served. As a rule, however, these ovens are only used for warming the plates.

Tests were carried out to find the temperature at which the food was served to the children. The results were not entirely satisfactory and showed that much more care would be needed if the temperature requirements of the regulations are to be complied with. In general the facilities provided at the school sculleries were far from adequate. In several cases these sculleries also served as childrens' cloakrooms or were used for the storage of school equipment.

During the year the use of one premise (an ex-R.A.F. hut used as a school annexe) which was unsuitable due to lack of washing facilities, cleanliness, etc., was discontinued. These premises had merely been used for the service of food, all washing-up being done at the Wootton Bassett kitchen. Purton school kitchen was provided with a cloakroom and W.C. handwashing facilities and additional sinks. Previously the toilet etc. were entered directly from a food room. Some working surfaces were renewed at the central kitchen.

A summary of the main defects are :—

No hand washing facilities at 10 schools.

No hot water supply, other than electric coppers at 7 schools.

No notices re hand washing in W.C.'s at 10 schools.

At two schools the sculleries were generally unsuitable.

It is felt that some instruction in food hygiene should be given to children at school and that hand washing should be enforced before meals are taken. To this end it would be an advantage for suitable notices requesting the washing of hands to be displayed in *all* toilets.

One domestic science kitchen was inspected and found to be unsatisfactory, through lack of hand washing facilities, unsuitable sinks and defective working surfaces.

Three halls used for the service of school meals were also inadequately equipped.

### **(b) Private Schools**

The two private schools in the district were inspected. Between them they cater for approximately 140 children. Their kitchens are well appointed and kept in a clean condition. Some repairs and additional washing facilities were required.

### **Institutions**

These comprise two aged persons homes situated at Purton and Cricklade and a children's home situated at Purton. The homes at Purton were fairly satisfactory and works of a minor nature only were required. The home at Cricklade however required extensive repairs, the provision of additional hand washing facilities, new sinks and working surfaces.

### **Public Halls, Social Centres, etc.**

This class of premises comes under the regulations when food is sold. Many of the halls are hired out for wedding receptions, dances and other functions, and there are three halls which are used in connection with the school meals service.

Property of this type presented quite a problem. In most cases compliance with the regulations will entail considerable work as the provision of drainage is also required to take the wastes from sinks and wash-hand basins.

Eleven such premises were inspected. On the whole they were badly equipped. In several cases the only facilities available comprised an electric boiler and bowls for washing up. Hand washing facilities were absent or inadequate in every case.

It is considered important that these premises be brought up to standard as food is served by voluntary helpers, very often under rushed and crowded conditions. Where such an arrangement was possible it was suggested that a separate kitchen be formed as the service of food from one corner of a hall where perhaps a dance is being held, makes the hygienic handling of food very difficult.

One hall is used for five days a week as a dining hall for a large number of children. During the afternoon it is used by various organisations and teas are served. In the evenings dances, dinners and other events are held involving the service of food. The kitchen was found to be well below the required standard.

Another hall used for school meals service lacked even a piped water supply.

### **Factory Canteens**

There are three factory canteens in the district, but at only one were meals served on a large scale. The other two dealt mainly in tea, sandwiches and cakes. Additional wash-hand basins were required at two premises and a constant supply of hot water to the sink at one. First aid equipment and the replacement of some unsatisfactory working surfaces were also required.

### **Cafes**

There are 8 cafes in the district. One, a transport cafe, presented difficulties in that water was drawn from a well which was found to be polluted, there being no mains supply available, a farmer eventually agreed to allow the cafe proprietor to connect to his private supply and plans have now been approved for new sanitary accommodation and drainage. Some structural repairs were also required.

At a second premises washing facilities and the provision of sanitary accommodation were required. This cafe is open until late hours and the lack of toilets had given rise to a number of complaints from the police and other persons regarding nuisances being committed in the street.

A third premise required structural alteration to eliminate the direct connection between kitchen and W.C.

At two other premises work in connection with the washing facilities was required.

The remaining premises were requested to carry out works of a minor nature.

### **Bakehouses**

In recent years there has been a big reduction in the number of bakehouses operating in the district. There are now 6 and visits to them resulted in the following works being requested :—

<i>Nature of works</i>	<i>No. of bakehouses in which the work is required</i>
Washing facilities	...
Structural repair	...
Renew working surfaces	...
Provision of clothing accommodation	...
Cleansing of premises	...

Provision of sink ...	...	...	...	2
Ventilation to be provided	...	...	...	1
Provision of notice re hand washing ...	...	...	...	4

During the year one bakehouse was provided with a wash-hand basin supplied with hot and cold water, and new bin tops.

### **Fishmongers**

There are three shops where the sale of wet fish and fish frying is carried on. At one premise groceries are also sold.

Facilities for hand washing were required at two premises, while another required cleansing and structural repairs.

### **Greengrocers**

There are only two premises concentrating mainly on the sale of greengroceries and these were fairly satisfactory.

### **Butchers**

Four butcher's shops were visited. Washing facilities and drainage were required at one and improved washing facilities at the others. One shop also required considerable structural repairs and alterations.

### **Confectioners, Ice Cream sales, etc.**

There are fourteen premises concerned primarily with the sale of sweets, cakes or ice cream. In several cases this sale is incidental to either the business of a cafe or bakehouse. Inadequate washing facilities and insufficient sinks were found in three instances.

During the year one premise, which was previously a bakehouse and shop, was converted to a lock-up shop. As a result a wash-hand basin, sink and W.C. were required the existing facilities being no longer available. This work has been completed.

### **Factories dealing with food products**

These consist of two milk factories which produce condensed and powdered milk and one egg packing depot. In addition one milk factory carries out the bottling of orange juice. Additional washing facilities were required for the orange drink production room.

### **Grocers**

Fifty premises of this type were inspected. The main defects discovered were :—

Inadequate hand washing facilities	...	...	35
No satisfactory first aid equipment available	...	...	20
Insufficient facilities for washing food and equipment	...	...	16
Disrepair	...	...	14
Lack of cleanliness	...	...	8
No accommodation for outer clothing	...	...	2
Unsatisfactory equipment	...	...	15

Inadequate ventilation ...	...	...	...	...	2
Toilet communicating directly with a food room ...	...	...	...	...	2

### Licensed Premises

At the end of 1955 an inspection of all the public houses in the district had been completed and, with the exception of one or two premises which presented technical and legal difficulties, a fairly satisfactory standard had been obtained. However, a start was made on the re-inspection of all these premises and when it has been completed the respective breweries will be contacted with regard to any works which might be required under the Regulations. Clubs will also be included in these inspections.

### Manufacture of Chocolate

One person is making chocolates at her home for sale in a nearby town. She is at present in a very small way of business. Apart from one or two minor items the premises were satisfactory.

### Food Poisoning

Notifications were received involving five instances of suspected food poisoning and only in two of these causative organisms were isolated. Sonne Dysentery affecting one person and *Salmonella Typhimurium* affecting 5 persons.

The person suffering from Sonne Dysentery had just returned from abroad and enquiries proved that he had contracted this disease before entering this country.

In December notification that two school children were suffering with food poisoning was received. As the result of investigations two other children were found to be harbouring *Salmonella Typhimurium* and subsequently the mother of one of the children became affected with this organism. The four children all attended the same cookery classes and ingredients for making Christmas cakes were suspected. Specimens of the ingredients were taken from the supplier and also from a person who had purchased the ingredients at the same time as the patients but had not used them. These specimens were found to be negative and perfectly fit. Specimens of the baked cake and marzipan were taken from the Christmas cakes made by three of the children affected and *Salmonella Typhimurium* was isolated in marzipan on the cake made by one of them. It is suspected that this child became affected from some unknown source and infected either the marzipan when making the cake, the other three children becoming infected either by eating the mixture or by contact with something handled by her. Twelve Christmas cakes were made in the class attended by the four children and the parents of the children who had made cakes were warned by the Medical Officer of Health against eating them.

No. of visits re food poisoning ... ... ... 79

## FACTORIES ACTS 1937 AND 1948

Premises registered under the Factories Acts are:—

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	6
Brickworks	...	...	...	...	1
Builders and Carpenters	...	...	...	...	9
Condensed and evaporated milk manufactory					1
Coffin board makers	...	...	...	...	1
Dental Manufactory	...	...	...	...	1
Dried milk manufactory	...	...	...	...	1
Egg Grading Depot	...	...	...	...	1
Engineering shops	...	...	...	...	5
Furniture maker and repairer	...	...	...	...	1
Gas works	...	...	...	...	2
Glove works	...	...	...	...	1
Grass drying plants	...	...	...	...	3
Gravel pits	...	...	...	...	1
Joinery works	...	...	...	...	1
Laundries	...	...	...	...	1
Local Authority workshop	...	...	...	...	1
Motor and cycle repair shops	...	...	...	...	17
Potteries	...	...	...	...	1
Rope works	...	...	...	...	1
Saw mills	...	...	...	...	3
Sausage makers	...	...	...	...	1
Waterworks	...	...	...	...	2
					—
					62
					—

### Inspections

(i) Factories where Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities—

No. on register	...	...	...	...	8
No. of inspections	...	...	...	...	1
No. of written notices	...	...	...	...	—
No. of occupiers prosecuted	...	...	...	...	—

(ii) Factories and other Premises not included in (i) on which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority—

No. on register	...	...	...	...	54
No. of inspections	...	...	...	...	44
No. of written notices	...	...	...	...	3
No. of occupiers prosecuted	...	...	...	...	—

## Defects

Cases in which defects were found :—

	Found	Remedied
Insufficient sanitary conveniences	1	1
Unsuitable or defective sanitary conveniences	2	2
Other offences	1	1

## Outworkers

There were 19 outworkers employed in the district in the following parishes—

Ashton Keynes	...	...	...	6
Cricklade	...	...	...	9
Leigh	...	...	...	2
Lyneham	...	...	...	1
Wootton Bassett	...	...	...	1

In addition, 3 outworkers living outside the district were employed by firms with premises in this district.

All outworkers were engaged in glove making.

The defects found at the sanitary conveniences consisted of a broken W.C. pan, a dirty convenience minus a door, and one premises did not have a sanitary convenience. The other offence was at premise where a certificate of Means of Escape from Fire had not been obtained.

## WATER SUPPLIES

The position as regards the yield of water is satisfactory, but there is insufficient storage capacity at Hook reservoir, and the existing 10 inch main through which the water is pumped from the source to this reservoir will not carry sufficient water to meet all requirements and allow a safety margin.

One sample out of the 47 samples of water taken from public supplies for bacteriological and chemical analysis was unfit. This was due to the human element in attending to the chlorination.

There is no plumbo-solvency but the fluorine content of the three larger sources is very low.

## Sources

The sources of water supply remain the same and are situate at Ashton Keynes, Broad Town, Clyffe Pypard and Thornhill (Broad Town). The greatest yield of water is obtained from two boreholes at Ashton Keynes and although the water is chlorinated before passing into the mains, samples taken from the boreholes show the untreated water to be bacteriologically of the highest purity. Water is obtained at Clyffe Pypard from an adit in the chalk hills and at Broad Town and Thornhill from wells. These supplies are also chlorinated.

A private supply provides water to a small number of houses at Clyffe Pypard.

## Storage

The provisions made for storing the water is detailed as follows—

	<i>Gallons</i>
Hook reservoir ... ... ... ...	500,000
Cricklade reservoir ... ... ...	60,000
Wootton Bassett elevated tank ... ...	50,000
Clyffe Pypard underground tank ... ...	35,000
Ashton Keynes elevated tank ... ...	20,000
Purton (Pavenhill) elevated tank ... ...	20,000
Purton (The Heading) underground tank	17,000
Bradenstoke elevated tank ... ...	12,000
Broad Town underground tank ... ...	10,000
	<hr/>
	724,000
	<hr/>

## Distribution

Water mains serve every parish in the district. Water gravitates from Hook reservoir to supply the storage tanks at Wootton Bassett, Purton and an underground tank owned by the Air Ministry at Lyneham Aerodrome. A booster pump is used on the main to the latter tank. A storage tank at Bradenstoke is supplied by water pumped from the Air Ministry tank. It is also possible to use the pumping main to Hook reservoir as a supply main to Ashton Keynes elevated tank. Water is pumped and also gravitates to the tanks at Cricklade and is then distributed by gravitation. At Broad Town and Thornhill water gravitates to the tanks and is also supplied therefrom by gravitation.

## Water Sampling

Number of water samples taken—

Public Supplies ... ... ...	47
Private Supplies ... ... ...	33

There were 44 bacteriological and 3 chemical samples taken from public supplies, 29 bacteriological and 3 chemical samples and also one sample for special examination taken from private supplies.

One bacteriological public supply sample was unsatisfactory due to a chlorination fault.

At Clyffe Pypard two samples were from houses which were too far away from a water main and one was from a private supply from which a check sample proved satisfactory.

The two unsatisfactory samples at Latton were taken from a private supply before a chlorinating plant was installed.

The unsatisfactory Lyneham samples were from a well serving

two houses which will be demolished as soon as the tenants are rehoused, and from a supply serving premises which cannot be connected to the public main owing to the expense.

The Purton sample was taken from a well serving a house which is unfit for habitation.

The check sample on the Wootton Bassett private supply which was obtained from a well serving one house showed an improvement bacteriologically.

### Results of Water Analysis

	BACTERIOLOGICAL		CHEMICAL	
	<i>Fit for drinking purposes</i>	<i>Unfit for drinking purposes</i>	<i>Fit for drinking purposes</i>	<i>Unfit for drinking purposes</i>
Taken from public supplies at—				
Ashton Keynes ...	7	—	1	—
Broad Town ...	12	1	1	—
Clyffe Pypard ...	12	—	1	—
Thornhill ...	12	—	—	—
	43	1	3	—
Taken from private supplies in the parish of—				
Broad Town ...	—	—	1	—
Clyffe Pypard ...	5	3	—	—
		3		
		(suspicious)		
Latton ... ...	3	2	2	—
Lydiard Tregoze	2	2	—	—
		(suspicious)		
Lyneham ...	—	2	—	—
		1		
		(suspicious)		
Purton ... ...	2	1	—	—
Wootton Bassett	—	2	—	—
		1		
		(suspicious)		
	12	10	3	—
		7		
		(suspicious)		

PUBLIC SUPPLIES  
CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

	Ashton Keynes (Reaction pH7.4)	Broad Town (Reaction pH7.0)	Clyffe Pypard (Reaction pH7.6)
parts per million			
Free and Saline	Less than .005	Less than .005	Less than 0.004
Ammonia	Less than .005	0.012	Less than 0.004
Albuminoid Ammonia	15.5	12.5	13.5
Chlorine (as chlorides) equivalent to Sodium Chlorine	25.5	21.0	22
Oxygen absorbed (4 hours)	0.015	0.19	0.12
Nitrite	Absent	Absent	Absent
Nitrogen as Nitrate	0.63	0.82	0.82
Total Solids	340	440	347
Loss on ignition	19	20	34
Appearance on ignition	No charring	Some charring	Very slight charring
Hardness :	230	284	226
Temporary	58	56	64
Permanent	288	340	290
Total	Absent	Absent	Absent
Lead and copper	0.35	0.12	0.15
Fluorine as F.	Clear and bright	Clear with fine white sediment	Clear and bright
Appearance	No smell	No smell	

### Houses and Population supplied from Public Water Mains

PARISH	WATER SUPPLIED DIRECT TO HOUSES (NOT INCLUDING TEMPORARY DWELLINGS)		HOUSES SUPPLIED BY MEANS OF A STANDPIPE (NOT INCLUDING TEMPORARY DWELLINGS)	
	No. of houses	Estimated population	No. of houses	Estimated population
Ashton Keynes	235	856		
Braydon	15	55		
Broad Town	115	419		
Clyffe Pypard	67	244		
Cricklade	533	1941		
Latton	75	273		
Leigh	100	364		
Lydiard Millicent	266	969		
Lydiard Tregoze	108	393		
Lyneham	570	2076		
Marston Meysey	45	164		
Purton	787	2866		
Tockenham	41	149		
Wootton Bassett	1170	4261	11	40
	4127	15030	11	40

### Houses and Population supplied from Private Water Mains

PARISH	WATER SUPPLIED DIRECT TO HOUSES (NOT INCLUDING TEMPORARY DWELLINGS)		HOUSES SUPPLIED BY MEANS OF A STANDPIPE (NOT INCLUDING TEMPORARY DWELLINGS)	
	No. of houses	Estimated population	No. of houses	Estimated population
Broad Town	5	18	—	—
Clyffe Pypard	29	106	—	—
	34	124	—	—

### Temporary Dwellings and Population Supplied from Public Water Mains

PARISH	WATER SUPPLIED DIRECT TO TEMPORARY DWELLINGS		WATER SUPPLIED BY MEANS OF A STANDPIPE ON THE SITE	
	No. of temporary dwellings	Estimated population	No. of temporary dwellings	Estimated population
Lydiard Tregoze	120	437	—	—

## Totals, Percentages, etc., re Water Supplies to Dwellings

TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSES SUPPLIED FROM PUBLIC WATER MAINS					
(i) Into or on to premises	...	...	...	4127	
(ii) By means of a standpipe	...	...	...	11	
					4138
ESTIMATED POPULATION SUPPLIED FROM PUBLIC WATER MAINS (INCLUDING POPULATION OF TEMPORARY DWELLINGS)					
(i) Into or on to premises	...	...	...	15467	
(ii) By means of a standpipe	...	...	...	40	
					15507
Total number of <b>houses</b> supplied from water mains (public and private)	...	...	...	4172	
Total estimated <b>population</b> , including population of temporary dwellings supplied from water mains (public and private)	...	...	...	15631	
Percentage of <b>houses</b> supplied from <b>public</b> water mains				90.88	
Percentage of <b>houses</b> supplied from <b>private</b> water mains	...	...	...	0.75	
Percentage of <b>houses</b> supplied from <b>water mains</b> ...				91.63	
Percentage of <b>estimated population</b> supplied from public water mains ...	...	...	...	93.53	
Percentage of <b>estimated population</b> supplied from <b>private</b> water mains ...	...	...	...	0.75	
Percentage of <b>estimated population</b> supplied from <b>water mains</b> ...	...	...	...	94.28	
number of visits re water supplies—					
Public supplies	...	...	...	52	
Private supplies	...	...	...	22	

## THE PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

More notifications of infestation by rats and mice were received from householders last year and the percentage of houses infested was slightly higher. The degree of infestation is, however, much less.

It has not been necessary to take any formal or even informal action against an occupier to rid his premises of rats or mice, as there has been good co-operation between occupiers and your Rodent Operator.

All refuse tips and sewage works are regularly inspected and treated whenever necessary. The infestation of refuse tips was remarkably small, but on two occasions the infestation of Wootton Bassett sewage works with rats was rather heavy. The infestation

was soon cleared.

The sewers at Cricklade, Purton and Wootton Bassett were treated. There were small infestations in Cricklade and Wootton Bassett sewers, but Purton sewers were free.

Arsenic and Zinc Phosphide are used in treating sewers, but Warfarin is used in all other treatments.

From the table given hereunder it will be seen that the percentage of rat infestation of properties inspected has been greatly reduced, but it is not so as regards infestation with mice.

	<i>Percentage of the properties inspected which were infested</i>				
	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Rats	22	28	19	11	11
Mice	1	3	2	1	2

	TYPE OF PROPERTY					Total
	Local Authority	Dwelling House	Business Premises	Agricultural		
No. of properties inspected						
(a) after notification ...	—	33	10	9	52	
(b) survey ...	12	867	143	133	1155	
(c) otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	—	30	87	10	127	
Total properties inspected	12	930	240	152	1334	
No. of properties infested						
by—rats ...	7	103	18	19	147	
—mice ...	1	28	5	—	34	
% of the properties inspected which were infested by—rats ...	58.3	11.1	7.5	12.5	11.0	
—mice ...	8.3	3.0	2.1	—	2.6	
No. of infested properties treated by the Local Authority ...	8	131	23	19	181	
Total number of treatments (including re-treatments) carried out ...	14	154	28	25	221	

Number of visits re infestation by rats and mice ... 2550

### PETROLEUM ACT AND REGULATIONS

No. of licences issued to store petroleum ...	...	66
No. of licences issued to store petroleum and carbide		2
No. of licences issued to store carbide ...	...	1
No. of inspections of installations and store places		13

## MISCELLANEOUS VISITS

There were 54 miscellaneous visits made during the year. These are visits made as the result of unspecified complaints the nature of which are not ascertained until the premises have been visited. It is then found that usually time has been wasted as the matter is no concern of the Council. On a few occasions the complaint concerns another department and it is then passed to that department.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

It has not been necessary for any action to be taken under this act.

## DEALERS IN OLD METALS AND MARINE STORE DEALERS

There are 9 registered dealers in old metals at 10 premises situate as follows—

Clyffe Pypard	...	...	1
Cricklade	...	...	1
Tockenham	...	...	1
Lydiard Tregoze	...	...	1
Wootton Bassett	...	...	6

## TABULAR SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR

Water supplies—Public	...	...	...	...	...	52
"    "    —Private	...	...	...	...	...	22
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	66
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	3
Temporary dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	9
Moveable dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	33
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	26
River Pollution	...	...	...	...	...	2
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	15
Old metal dealers	...	...	...	...	...	1
National Assistance Act	...	...	...	...	...	2
Council house inspections	...	...	...	...	...	18
Places of entertainment	...	...	...	...	...	1
Licensed premises	...	...	...	...	...	20
Refuse collection	...	...	...	...	...	229
Refuse disposal	...	...	...	...	...	210
Damage by Pests Act	...	...	...	...	...	2550
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous sanitary visits	...	...	...	...	...	54
Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	68
Salvage	...	...	...	...	...	42
Pet Animals Act	...	...	...	...	...	1

Housing—Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	...	59
Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	107
Miscellaneous housing visits	...	...	...	...	...	152
Verminous premises	...	...	...	...	...	82
Infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	...	26
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	102
Meat inspection	...	...	...	...	...	1441
Food Hygiene Regulations :—						
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	9
School kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	9
School sculleries	...	...	...	...	...	14
School halls	...	...	...	...	...	3
Parish halls	...	...	...	...	...	13
Cafes	...	...	...	...	...	14
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	8
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	6
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	88
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	29
Clubs	...	...	...	...	...	1
Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	1
Old People's Homes	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	23
Milk sampling	...	...	...	...	...	123
Miscellaneous food visits	...	...	...	...	...	9
Food poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	79
Petrol installations	...	...	...	...	...	13
						5841













W.T.S., SWINDON